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Community Relations Plan
for the
Atlantic Wood Industries Superfund Site
Portsmouth, Virginia



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Section 1

Overview of the Community Relations Plan

EPA developed this Community Relations Plan to encourage community involvement and two-way communication between the site community and EPA during the site **cleanup***. EPA is committed to acknowledging and addressing the site-related concerns of local community members including residents, public officials, media, and other interested parties. Because awareness of the Atlantic Wood Site is not high, community involvement in the site has been moderate. Recently though, activities at the Atlantic Wood Site and ongoing work at another Superfund site in Portsmouth have heightened community interest in EPA's work in the area.

EPA will use this Community Relations Plan as a guide to conduct community relations activities as part of the **Superfund** process at the site. This Community Relations Plan describes: the site and its history; past community involvement; current community concerns; and the steps EPA will take to address these concerns. EPA's major goal is to keep community members informed about and involved in the site cleanup process. EPA prepared this Community Relations Plan from many information sources, including EPA site files, public meetings, community interviews, and input from local residents and public officials. The EPA Region III office will oversee the implementation of all activities outlined in this Plan.

This Community Relations Plan is divided into six sections, plus appendices. Section 1 is an *Overview of the Community Relations Plan*. Section 2, *EPA Background*, provides an overview of Superfund and relevant EPA sections, divisions, branches, and offices, and the role of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VADEQ). Section 3, *Site Description and History*, gives a brief summary of the site and its history. Section 4, *Community Background*, presents a profile of the community surrounding the site, in addition to a history of community relations at the site, as well as site-related concerns and issues raised by community members, and a listing of the community's non-site environmental concerns. Section 5, *Goals of the Community Relations Plan*, describes the community relations goals that EPA will achieve by involving local residents, public officials, and local news media in site activities. Section 6, *Community Relations Activities*, describes the activities EPA will conduct to achieve its community relations goals at the site.

*All words highlighted in **bold** are defined in the Glossary of Technical Terms (Appendix D).

Section 2

EPA Background

2.1 Superfund

Superfund is the federal government's program to clean up uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites. Superfund is guided by the **National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)**. Superfund's laws, officially known as the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)**, were passed by Congress in 1980 and amended in 1986 by the **Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA)**. Superfund gives EPA the authority to stop ongoing releases or prevent potential releases of hazardous substances; enables EPA to make the parties responsible for contaminating a site pay for its cleanup; and provides funding for the cleanup when money from responsible parties is not available.

Identifying Sites for Cleanup

Under the Superfund program, EPA investigates hazardous waste sites throughout the United States. EPA conducts an initial review of each site to determine whether further action is necessary. EPA then evaluates the site by using the Hazard Ranking System. The Hazard Ranking System is a measurement tool which assigns each site a score based on the possibility that contamination will spread through **groundwater, surface water**, or air. It also takes into account other factors, such as the location of nearby residences. EPA places the most serious sites on the **National Priorities List (NPL)**, which is a list of sites identified for possible cleanup using Superfund money.

Selecting and Implementing the Cleanup Plan

After EPA places a site on the National Priorities List, the Agency conducts a **Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS)**. The Remedial Investigation examines the site's contamination to find out what it is, how much there is, what it is affecting, and what types of health or environmental damage it could cause. A Feasibility Study reviews the different ways the contamination can be cleaned up and evaluates the effectiveness of different cleanup options to

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help determine what will best work for the particular site and the surrounding community. EPA announces its recommended cleanup method in a document called a **Proposed Remedial Action Plan (Proposed Plan)**. EPA then announces a 30-day **public comment period** concerning the Proposed Plan. During this time, EPA holds a public meeting to provide information and address the community's questions about the Proposed Plan. EPA takes all comments into account and may change its recommended cleanup method based on citizen input. After reviewing all public comments, EPA makes a final decision and selects a cleanup method. This selection is announced in a document called the **Record of Decision (ROD)**.

The next steps are the **Remedial Design** and **Remedial Action (RD/RA)**, during which EPA supervises the design and implementation of the cleanup plan outlined in the Record of Decision. When necessary, EPA can modify the Record of Decision to reflect minor changes to the cleanup plan. After EPA has determined that all appropriate cleanup actions have been completed at a site, the Agency will delete that site from the National Priorities List. EPA continues to monitor delisted Superfund sites every five years to ensure that appropriate cleanup levels are being achieved.

2.2 Relevant EPA Groups

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., EPA has 10 regional offices, each of which have community relations and technical staff involved in Superfund site cleanups. EPA Region III encompasses Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C. The EPA Region III office is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It houses several divisions, branches, and sections that work with other EPA regional offices when necessary. The EPA branches most involved with the Atlantic Wood Industries Site are described below.

Superfund Community Involvement Branch (Region III)

This branch oversees communication between EPA and all residents, public officials, media representatives, and community groups associated with Superfund sites. The Superfund Community Involvement branch is responsible for the planning, coordination, and implementation of activities designed to enhance communication and community involvement for each site. Each site is assigned a Community Involvement Coordinator who works closely with EPA technical staff to keep the local community informed and involved during Superfund

clean-up work. (The Community Involvement Coordinator for the Atlantic Wood Industries Site is Vance Evans. See Appendix A, page 6, for his address and telephone number.)

Superfund General Remedial Branch (Region III)

This branch is responsible for all long-term cleanup work at Superfund sites in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Washington DC, and Delaware. These responsibilities include conducting site assessments, remedial investigations, feasibility studies, treatability tests, and remedial (cleanup) designs and actions. Each site is assigned a Remedial Project Manager (RPM), who supervises the work performed by EPA technical staff, private contractors, and other parties involved in site study and cleanup. (The Remedial Project Manager for the Atlantic Wood Industries Site is David Iacono. See Appendix A, page 6, for his address and telephone number.)

Superfund Removal Branch (Region III)

EPA's Superfund Removal Branch manages short-term actions and emergency removal responses. These actions include responses to accidental releases of hazardous substances, as well as short-term work at sites on EPA's National Priorities List. Immediate **removal actions** are supervised by EPA On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs).

2.3 State Role

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VADEQ) is the support agency for EPA-led studies and cleanups at federal Superfund sites in Virginia. (See Appendix A for the name, address, and telephone number of the VADEQ contact person for the Atlantic Wood Industries Site.) VADEQ reviews and comments on site workplans and studies, participates in community relations activities, and provides technical assistance to EPA.

Section 3

Site Description and History

3.1 Site Description

The Atlantic Wood Industries Superfund Site occupies approximately 47.5 acres along the industrialized waterfront area of Portsmouth, Virginia (See Figure 1). The site is divided into east and west portions by the Norfolk and Portsmouth Beltline Railroad and Burtons Point Road. The eastern portion of the site houses the inactive wood processing facilities and wood storage areas. The western portion of the site is currently used for the storage of teated and untreated wood shipped in from other locations. The site lies on the west bank of the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River and is bordered on the north by Elm Avenue and the United States Norfolk Naval Shipyard. To the south of the site lies the Southern Annex of the U.S. Norfolk Naval Shipyard and property occupied by the Portsmouth City School Board. The City of Chesapeake is located south of the site as well as east of the site, directly across the Elizabeth River. The site has been used for various purposes including a possible coal tar refinery, **creosote** wood treating plant, **pentachlorophenol (PCP)** wood treating plant, and a storage yard for treated lumber.

3.2 Site History

From 1926 until 1944 the site operated as a wood-treating facility under the name of Savannah Creosoting Company, a Maryland corporation. From that period on, the site experienced several name changes until November 21, 1985, when the company name was changed to Atlantic Wood Industries, Inc. (Atlantic Wood).

The Savannah Creosoting Company facility consisted of two of the four existing wood treatment retorts (vessels), the existing office building, several existing maintenance and storage buildings, and an above-ground tank farm. The above-ground tank farm consisted of four open-top steel storage tanks which were used to store wood preserving chemicals, including creosote. Later, two of the four storage tanks were used to store process water which may have contained PCP. Two of these storage tanks were removed from the site in 1985, and the other two were removed in June 1986.

The original two wood treatment units at the site (Retorts I and II) were primarily used for creosote treatments. However, from the late 1950s through the mid 1960s, a PCP-related product known as **creo-penta** may have also been used. Retort III, constructed in 1959, was used solely for creosote treatment. PCP was first used on-site in 1972 in Retort I. For approximately two years, site workers used Retort I for both PCP and creosote treatments. In 1974, Retort IV was constructed and dedicated to PCP treatments. The use of PCP as a preservative for wood treating was discontinued in 1985.

From 1940 until 1985, a concrete basin was used to recover wood preservatives from process water and until 1972, some excess process water was discharged into the Elizabeth River. Atlantic Wood continued to use this basin to recover preservatives and recycle the process water until the basin was removed in August 1985. In addition, the Clean Water Act, implemented in 1977, required the Atlantic Wood facility to stop discharging fluids from its oil/water separator. At that time, a liquid incineration unit known as a "liquidator" was constructed on-site. This unit incinerated excess water from the separator process that was previously discharged into the Elizabeth River. Atlantic Wood stopped using the liquidator in 1984.

From approximately 1966 until 1982, a portion of the site was used as a disposal area. This area, referred to as the historic disposal area, contains approximately 740 cubic yards of general debris, steel bands, untreated and treated wood waste, and cylinder and tank clean out material, which may contain creosote and PCP.

Until 1985, the facility used a concrete closed-loop recovery system to recover creosote preservative and process conditioning water for reuse. This system was removed in 1985, and was replaced by a recovery system in one of the on-site buildings. All wood treating operations at the site ceased in 1992.

On July 23, 1987, after initial site investigations, Atlantic Wood and EPA entered into an Administrative Order of Consent. As a result of this Order, Atlantic Wood agreed to conduct initial cleanup actions and perform a site Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS).

Based on results of the Remedial Investigation, EPA determined that the site posed a potential threat to human health and the environment, and therefore placed the site on the National Priorities List on February 15, 1990. Further investigations revealed that hazardous contaminants from the site had moved into the soil surrounding the storm sewer pipeline and to the inlet sediments where this sewer discharges. EPA discovered that the sewer pipeline contained small

cracks that allowed contaminants to seep in and be carried to the Elizabeth River and its sediments. Under EPA oversight and in consultation with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Atlantic Wood conducted initial cleanup actions by re-lining the leaking storm sewer to prevent the spread of contamination to an adjacent inlet. Also, approximately 520 cubic yards of heavily contaminated inlet sediments were removed and replaced with clean soil. This work was completed on March 25, 1995.

EPA examined the data obtained from the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study to develop its recommended course of action for the site. On June 9, 1995, EPA released a Proposed Plan to address soil, sediment, and heavy liquid contamination at the site. The Proposed Plan recommended that contaminated soils and sediments be excavated, cleaned, and either disposed off-site or returned to the area from which they were excavated. In addition, EPA recommends that recovery wells be installed on-site to pump out and remove the heavy liquids from the underground areas of the site.

Figure 1
Site Location Map

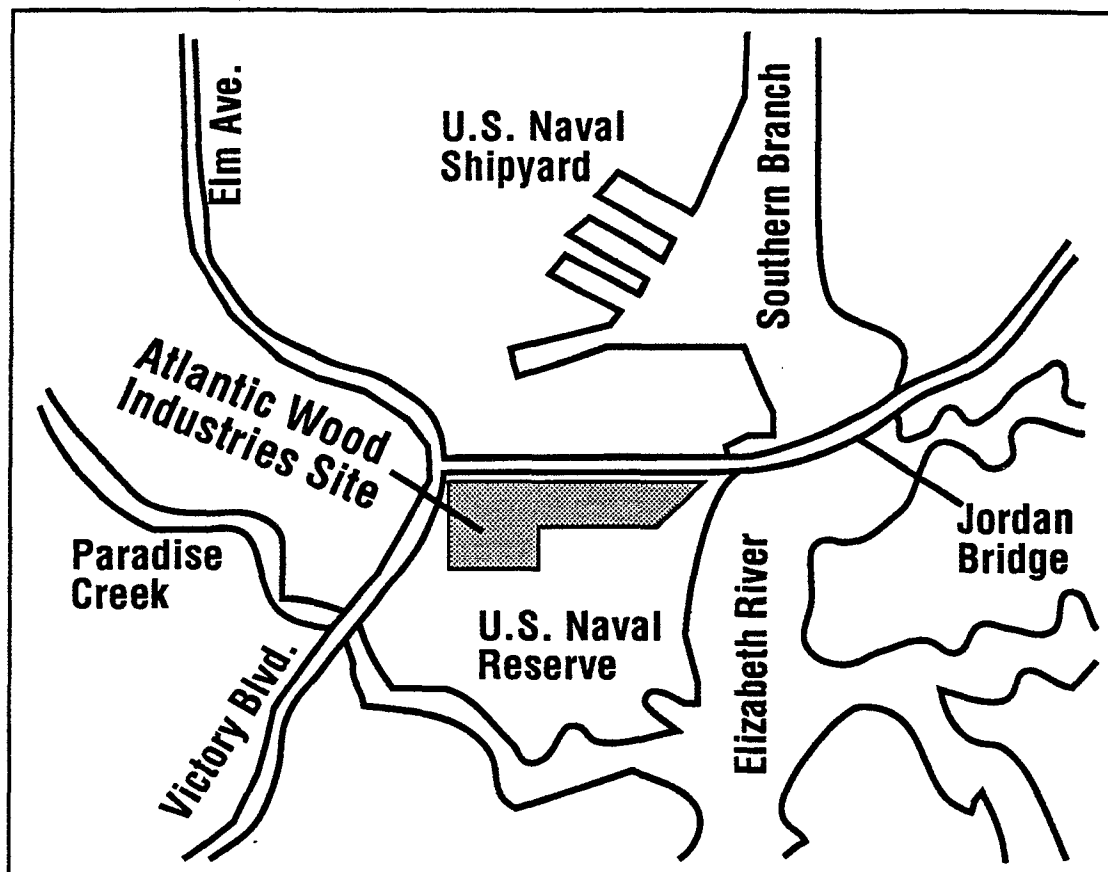
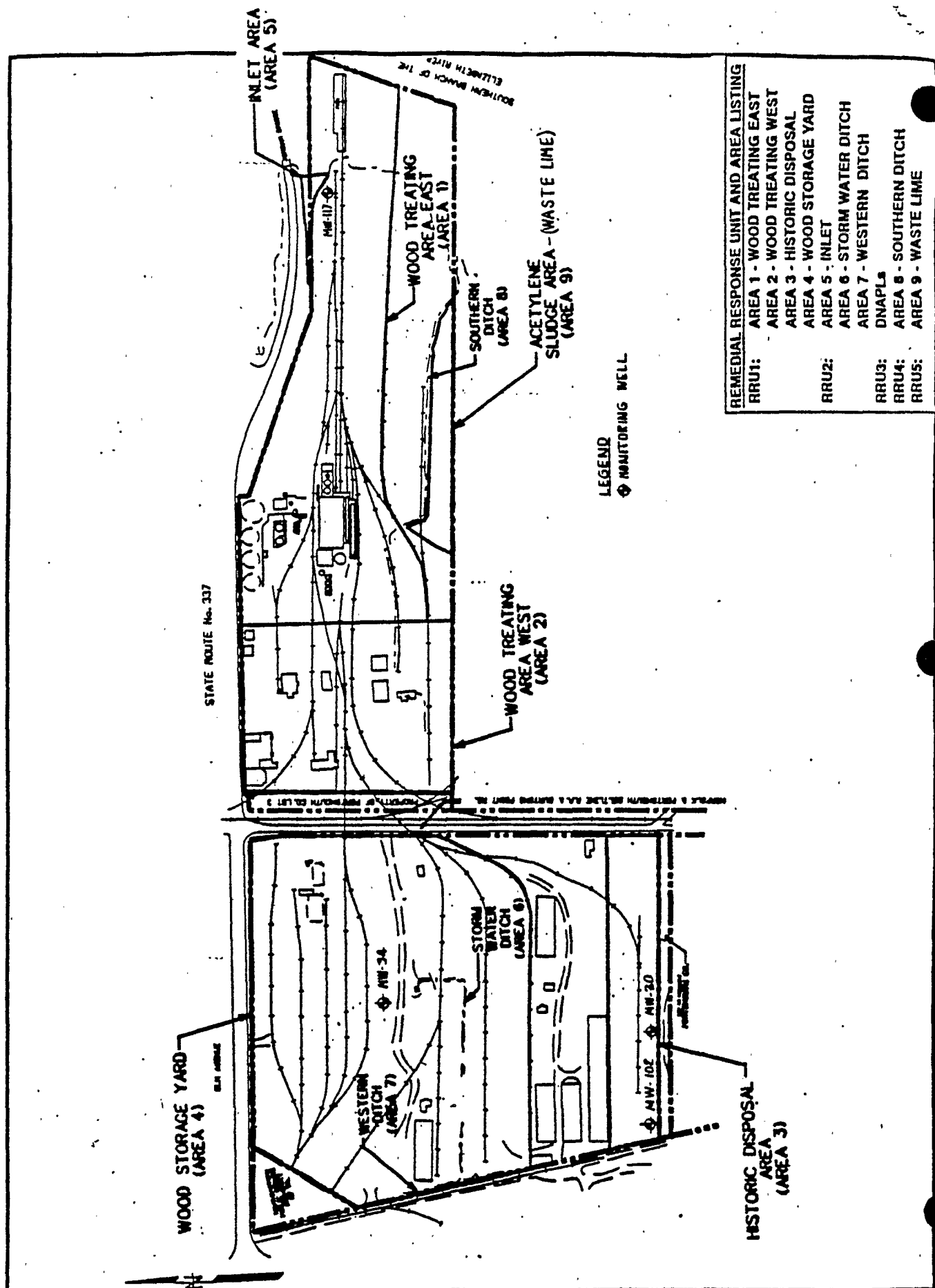


Figure 2
Site Layout Map



Section 4

Community Background

4.1 Community Profile

The City of Portsmouth is a historic seaport town which lies on the Elizabeth River, the world's deepest natural harbor, in Southeastern Virginia. As home of the nation's oldest and largest naval shipyard, Portsmouth played an integral part in the Revolutionary War and the Civil War. In addition, Portsmouth's 85 miles of navigable channels offer excellent shipping access and services for importing and exporting goods to the surrounding region. The city is 45.5 square miles in size, has a population of 103,970 (1990 census), and is located in the center of the Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport News (Hampton Roads) Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). This MSA ranks as the 27th largest in the country with a population of over 1.4 million people.

The City of Portsmouth is governed by a mayor, a city manager, and an elected board of council members who oversee all city activities. Portsmouth maintains full-time fire and police departments and also houses barracks for the Virginia State Police. The city is serviced by public water and sewer facilities, however, some residents still maintain private wells for common household uses. Portsmouth's major employers include the Maryview Medical Center, Norfolk Naval Shipyard, and Hoechst Celanese Corporation. Various Portsmouth media outlets include two newspapers, two television stations, and a radio station. The city also includes 24 schools, 1 college, 4 libraries, and 3 hospitals.

The immediate site community is located less than one-half mile from the site in a historic section known as Cradock. This community is named after a former World War II naval captain and is one of the first planned communities in the country. The Cradock neighborhood streets are arranged in the form of an anchor and are named after various naval heroes. Many in the community belong to the property owners association which meets and discusses community events and ways to improve the neighborhood. Unlike many communities in this area, Cradock has had a relatively small amount of new property owners over the years. Many of those who live in Cradock are blue-collar workers and are part of the military population. Cradock contains several community buildings including six churches, two elementary schools, a middle school, a

library, a fire station, a post office, a community center, as well as various clubs and veterans service organizations.

4.2 History of Community Involvement and Concerns

EPA interviewed local residents and officials about the Atlantic Wood Site in May 1995. Many in the community voiced their concerns about the contamination, however, interest in the site cleanup has been limited. Many of the community members who were interviewed believe that the closing of the Jordan Bridge has contributed to a lack of knowledge of the site and its cleanup. The Jordan Bridge which is located northeast of the site has been closed and under repair for some time. A community member estimated that approximately 12,000 to 15,000 vehicles would cross that bridge on a daily basis. However, since the bridge has been closed, people rarely travel the roads near the site. Some community members stated that people in the local community were more concerned and knowledgeable about activity at the Southeastern Public Service Authority (SPSA) recycling plant (located adjacent to the site) than at the Atlantic Wood Site.

Some community interest in the Atlantic Wood Site was expressed in March 1995 when contractors installed a liner in the storm sewer system to prevent contamination from spreading to the River inlet. EPA obtained a tax listing of properties in the Cradock area and distributed a fact sheet detailing the work that was being conducted at the site. EPA also placed a video in the local **information repositories** that further explained and demonstrated the work at the site. Some of those who were interviewed indicated that they had viewed the video and were interested in learning more about the site.

On June 9, 1995, EPA released its Proposed Plan for addressing contaminated soil, sediments, and heavy liquids at the site. Additionally, EPA placed a public notice in *The Virginia Pilot & Ledger Star* which announced the availability of the Proposed Plan, asked for public comment, and announced EPA's June 27, 1995 public meeting. EPA also distributed a fact sheet summarizing the information contained in the Proposed Plan and describing EPA's recommended course of action. The public comment period on the Proposed Plan began June 9, 1995, and ended August 7, 1995. Twenty-six people attended the June 27, 1995 public meeting at the Cradock Community Center; most of these audience members were local residents. Many of the community members at the meeting were concerned about the type of contamination and how it could affect the community and local waterways. Following the meeting, EPA prepared a **Responsiveness Summary** to address all the comments received during the public comment

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period. EPA considered all the comments received during the comment period and issued the Responsiveness Summary as part of the Record of Decision, on September 29, 1995.

The comments and questions received by EPA during the May 1995 community interviews in Portsmouth, and the June 27, 1995, public meeting are summarized below.

- **Impact of Site Contamination**

Because the Cradock community is located close to the site, many were concerned about the effects of contamination on local residents. Several community members stated that teenagers have been known to wander onto the site property and its river banks, possibly coming in contact with contaminated soils. Another community member is concerned about her private well, which she uses for her garden and swimming pool, becoming contaminated from the site. Others were concerned that during excavation and clean-up work, contaminants will move into the Elizabeth River and create a greater environmental problem. One individual stated that, although there are bans on fishing in the area, people continue to catch and consume fish and crabs.

- **Quality of Water in the Local Waterways**

Community members expressed concern about site contamination affecting the Elizabeth River, Paradise Creek, and other tributaries. Many residents believe that the Elizabeth River is already contaminated from the many industrial facilities located up and down stream. However, many local residents are involved in programs to clean the waterways such as the Elizabeth River Project, Save the Bay, and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Community members in these organizations are concerned that EPA will clean the site and not directly focus on the waterways which have been affected in part by the site. Several community members were interested in finding out more about a **Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)** at the site and if it could be used to study contamination in the Elizabeth River.

- **Site Cleanup**

Some of the individuals interviewed by EPA feel that the site cleanup could greatly impact the Cradock community. One individual stated that there is already heavy truck traffic from the SPSA recycling plant and that the traffic and noise may increase due to the

hauling during the site cleanup. In addition, a community member indicated that the re-opening of the Jordan Bridge and ongoing site work will increase the traffic flow through their community. Residents also expressed concerns about contaminants getting into the air during excavation and dust leaving the trucks when soil is hauled off-site. One community member suggested that EPA provide a schedule of clean-up activities to the local officials and residents so that any conflicts or problems can be avoided before actual work begins.

- **Communication Between EPA and the Community**

Some of the individuals contacted by EPA noted that the majority of the Cradock community is unaware of the contamination and site cleanup. One resident concluded that, although some in the community are involved in other civic activities, there has never been a real concern about environmental issues in the community. One community member believes that many people have become conditioned to the pollution in the area and stated that he is concerned about the lack of concern for the environment.

Many community members believe that increased communication with the community will increase the interest of the local community in not just this site, but other environmental issues in the area. Some individuals suggested that EPA work with the Cradock Property Owners Association and distribute site updates more often, addressing topics such as the Superfund process, the schedule of site activities, the projected impacts of the cleanup on the community, where additional information can be found, and estimated completion dates of cleanup activities.

- **Non-site Environmental Concerns**

Most of the community members interviewed expressed that other, non-site related environmental concerns exist in the community. These concerns mainly center around the other Superfund site (Abex) located in Portsmouth. Many in the community were concerned that the issues raised by the Washington Park community and the City of Portsmouth regarding the cleanup of the Abex site may potentially affect their community. Residents are also concerned that problems at the Abex Site will lead to delays in cleaning up the contamination at the Atlantic Wood Site.

Community members were also concerned about the SPSA recycling plant located across the road from the Atlantic Wood Site. Some community members stated that foul odors and clouds of smoke often make their way to the Cradock community and linger for days. One resident indicated that a thick cloud from the SPSA plant covered houses and cars with a half-inch of soot and, only after several complaints, did SPSA arrange to have the houses and cars cleaned. Residents indicated that they have contacted local officials on several occasions to report the emissions problems, but they feel their efforts are not garnering any results.

Many community members are also concerned about land development near their community. Several community members stated that residents recently held a meeting with developers and disapproved proposals to build naval nuclear storage facilities near the Cradock community. Many residents are concerned that this area will continue to be targeted for development that will directly affect their community.

Section 5

Goals of the Community Relations Plan

EPA's Community Relations Plan for the Atlantic Wood Industries Site is guided by four main objectives. These objectives, listed below, involve the cooperative efforts of the EPA Community Involvement Facilitator and Remedial Project Manager for the site, as well as other EPA staff.

1. Provide community members with useful information about the site and the Superfund process.

EPA will use fact sheets, newsletters, public notices, public meetings, news releases, and other means to explain the Superfund process and describe how site Remedial Design and Remedial Action activities fit into the general Superfund process. EPA will explain complex site activities in general terms so that community members understand the cleanup process.

2. Provide timely, site-specific updates to the community.

EPA will regularly update Cradock residents, local officials, community and civic groups, and other interested parties on the progress of the site cleanup. EPA will make phone calls, hold public meetings, and distribute written material to keep community members updated on site activities. In addition, EPA will make site-related documents available to the public.

3. Enlist and encourage the participation of Cradock community members in Superfund activities and provide opportunities for community input.

EPA will encourage the site community to take an active role in the Superfund process through community outreach activities. Such activities may include a Superfund workshop, availability sessions, site tours, and community interviews. EPA will also listen to and address site-related comments and questions voiced by community members.

4. Enhance communication between EPA, local officials, and the media.

EPA will provide Portsmouth and Chesapeake city officials with information about site activities and will invite and address questions from them. EPA will also distribute and thoroughly explain site-information to the local media so that they can convey accurate information and provide community members with an informed role in the site cleanup.

Section 6

Community Relations Activities

Described below are 16 community relations activities for the Atlantic Wood Industries Superfund Site designed to achieve the goals summarized in Section 5. Please note that the sequential numbers which accompany the 16 community relations activities are for reference only, and do not necessarily indicate their relative importance. The anticipated time frame for these activities is shown in the table on pages 24-25.

1. Notify the Cradock community of upcoming site activities on a regular basis.

Objective: To minimize any concerns or disruptions to the community or their normal schedule. Regular updates on site activities will enhance public participation in the site cleanup and enable the community to provide informed input to EPA.

Method: EPA will provide printed material, make telephone calls, and hold availability sessions to focus on current and upcoming site cleanup work. EPA will also use these methods to announce the release of important site documents, other milestones, and to publicize the time, place, and purpose of public meetings.

2. Notify local media of upcoming site activities on a regular basis.

Objective: To ensure the distribution of accurate and consistent information about site activities. EPA will issue press releases, contact media representatives, and hold news briefings to provide the media with timely and accurate information. Communication between EPA and VADEQ is also important to ensure that EPA's updates are coordinated with relevant VADEQ activities.

Method: News releases, telephone calls, and briefings will: detail the current and upcoming site activities; announce the release of key documents and other milestones; and publicize the time, place, and purpose of public meetings.

3. Designate an EPA Community Involvement Facilitator to handle site inquiries.

Objective: To ensure prompt, accurate, and consistent responses and information about the site. If EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator is unable to provide adequate information, inquiries will be directed to the proper EPA contact.

Method: Vance Evans is the EPA Community Involvement Coordinator assigned to the site. He will work closely with David Iacono, EPA's Remedial Project Manager for the site. (See Appendix A, page 6, for their addresses and phone numbers.)

4. Respond promptly and accurately to inquiries from Cradock residents, public officials, community groups, and the media.

Objective: To maintain two-way communication between EPA and the site community. Prompt, accurate responses will strengthen community involvement and enhance cooperation between EPA and other parties involved in the site cleanup. Prompt responses to inquiries from local residents, media, and local officials will increase public awareness and understanding of site activities.

Method: Personal responses, meetings, and printed material will provide the basis for prompt responses from EPA to inquiries from the community. EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator will direct all inquiries to the proper contacts and ensure that a response is returned to the community in a timely manner.

5. Prepare and distribute site fact sheets and technical summaries.

Objective: To provide an easy-to-read update on site activities. Site fact sheets generally summarize site technical work and are mailed to residents, community groups, local and state officials, and other interested parties.

Method: Fact sheets will be mailed to all parties on the site mailing list and copies will also be placed in various locations in the site community. Fact sheets may include: information about past, current, and upcoming site activities; question and answer sections focusing on community concerns; overviews of cleanup technologies; site maps; listings of EPA and other relevant contact persons; and tear-off forms so that residents can add their names to the EPA site mailing list. Copies of fact sheets will also be available at the local EPA information repositories for the site. (See Appendix F for a copy of the fact sheet produced by EPA in December 1995.)

6. Maintain contact with the Cradock Property Owner's Association and the City of Portsmouth.

Objective: To maintain good communication between the Cradock community, EPA, and the City of Portsmouth, and to help keep other residents informed of site activities. (See Appendix A for the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of relevant City of Portsmouth contact persons.)

Method: EPA will inform the Cradock Property Owner's Association and relevant officials from the City of Portsmouth of site developments and upcoming community involvement activities.

7. Maintain and update the local information repositories.

Objective: To provide a reference point where the public can review the latest information on the site cleanup. EPA will update this collection of site-specific documents on the Atlantic Wood Industries Site and the Superfund process so that citizens can follow the progress of the site cleanup and provide informed comment.

Method: As site documents are released, they will be placed into each information repository. These repositories serve as a reference collection of site information. Each information repository contains the **Administrative Record** file, which includes the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study reports, the Proposed Remedial Action Plan, and other documents used by EPA to select clean-up methods. The repository also includes the Community Relations Plan, information about the Technical Assistance Grant program, and other information about the site and the general Superfund process. EPA has established three local information repositories. (See Appendix C for each repository's address, telephone number, and business hours.)

8. Provide Technical Assistance Grant information.

Objective: To allow the site community a chance to review the work being conducted at the site. EPA will provide information about the Technical Assistance Grant program and review grant applications from qualified groups.

Method: EPA will make available the application for a Technical Assistance Grant to any community member who requests it. (See Appendix E for information on how to obtain an application and reference material.)

9. Release a Proposed Plan and hold a public comment period on it.

Objective: To identify various clean-up options and request public input on EPA's recommended course of action. EPA released a Proposed Plan for the site on June 9, 1995. As required, EPA has and will review all comments received during any public comment period before making its final selection of a cleanup alternative. The cleanup remedy selected for the Atlantic Wood Industries Site is announced in the Record of Decision.

Method: EPA's public comment period on the Proposed Plan lasts for a minimum of 30 days, and can be extended. The public comment period on the Proposed Plan for the site began June 9, 1995 and ended on August 7, 1995.

10. Publish public notices.

Objective: To inform the community of key site developments, public meetings, and the release of site documents.

Method: Notices will appear in the local news section of a daily local newspaper and may be published in other community publications as well. Notices include relevant dates, times, and locations of meetings or activities, as well as the name, address, and phone number of the primary EPA contact person. Public notices regarding site-specific documents, such as a Record of Decision, will briefly summarize the document. EPA published public notices in the *Virginia Pilot & Ledger Star* to announce the release of the Proposed Plan and the extension of the public comment period for the Atlantic Wood Industries Site. EPA will continue to publish public notices in the *Virginia Pilot & Ledger Star* as site activities warrant.

11. Conduct public meetings or availability sessions.

Objective: To update the community on site developments and address any community questions and comments.

Method: Public meetings will be held in the evening at a central location in the site community so that all interested parties will be able to attend. Availability sessions are usually held all day and can be attended at any time. The EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, the EPA Remedial Project Manager, and other EPA staff will be present at these events. EPA last held a public meeting on June 27, 1995, in the Cradock Community Center, to discuss the Proposed Plan for the site. EPA will hold other meetings as needed. If appropriate, EPA will investigate the possibility of having public meetings and demonstrations videotaped and shown on the local cable access channel.

12. Obtain a transcript of the public meeting on the Proposed Plan.

Objective: To document and provide a public record of the information presented at the public meeting. This transcript documents all of the information presented at the public meeting, including community members' questions and EPA's responses to them.

Method: EPA hired a local stenographer to transcribe a word-for-word record of public meetings. EPA's transcript of the public meeting on the Proposed Plan for Atlantic Wood Industries Site is available in the information repository.

13. Prepare a Responsiveness Summary.

Objective: To document and summarize community input received by EPA during an EPA public comment period.

Method: EPA will prepare a Responsiveness Summary as a section of the Record of Decision. The Responsiveness Summary summarizes community comments and questions received during the public comment period, as well as EPA's responses. EPA prepared a Responsiveness Summary for the Record of Decision on soil, sediment, and DNAPL cleanup, dated September 29, 1995.

14. Conduct informal meetings and workshops.

Objective: To enable EPA to explain the Superfund process, describe cleanup technologies, share information on site-related issues, and request input from the community.

Method: EPA will conduct informal meetings and workshops on an as-needed basis and as requested by the community. They will take place at a convenient location within the community and will involve the participation of the EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, the EPA Remedial Project Manager, as well as other EPA staff and individuals as needed.

15. Maintain and update site mailing lists.

Objective: To use in mailing out site fact sheets, providing telephone updates, and conducting other community involvement activities.

Method: EPA maintains an up-to-date listing of federal, state, and local officials; local media; community groups; and other interested parties. EPA also maintains a separate and

private list of residents, obtained from local tax records, public meeting sign-in sheets and community interviews. To protect the privacy of these persons, EPA will not release the list to the press or general public. (See Appendix A for the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of federal, state, and local officials; local media; community groups; and other interested parties.) If you would like to be added to the site's mailing list, please contact Vance Evans (see Appendix A, page 6).

16. Revise the Community Relations Plan.

Objective: To identify and address community needs, issues, or concerns regarding the site or the cleanup remedy that are not currently addressed in this Community Relations Plan.

Method: EPA will revise the Community Relations Plan as community concern warrants or at least every two years in lieu of a Record of Decision at the site. The Revised Community Relations Plan will update the information presented in the previous version of the Community Relations Plan.

Table 1
Community Relations Activities and Timing

Activity	Timing
1. Notify residents of upcoming site activities.	As site activity warrants.
2. Notify local media of upcoming site activities.	As site activity warrants.
3. Designate an EPA primary contact person.	Person has been designated.
4. Respond promptly and accurately to inquiries.	As needed.
5. Write and distribute site fact sheets.	As the site cleanup progresses.
6. Maintain contact with the Cradock Property Owner's Association.	As site activity warrants.
7. Maintain and update each local Information Repository.	As new site documents are released.
8. Provide Technical Assistance Grant information.	As requested.
9. Release a Proposed Plan and provide a public comment period on this Plan.	Plan was released June 9, 1995. Comment period began June 9, 1995 and ended August 7, 1995.
10. Publish Public Notices (newspaper ads).	At milestones, such as the Proposed Plan, Record of Decision, and for other reasons as needed.
11. Conduct public meetings.	After releasing the Proposed Plan, before beginning clean-up work, and for other reasons as needed.
12. Obtain a transcript of Proposed Plan public meetings.	Obtained and placed in each local information repository.
13. Prepare a Responsiveness Summary.	Completed after a public comment period, issued as part of the Record of Decision, and placed in each information repository.

*Table 1 (cont.)
Community Relations Activities and Timing*

Activity	Timing
14. Conduct informal meetings and workshops.	As needed, and based on community interest.
15. Maintain and update site mailing lists.	Lists have been established; update as needed.
16. Revise the Community Relations Plan.	As needed.

APPENDIX A
Interested Party and Contact List

AR500140

Interested Party and Contact List

A. Federal Elected Officials

Representative Robert C. Scott
501 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-8351
(Brian Woolfolk - Legislative Assistant)

2600 Washington Avenue
Newport News, VA 23607 (804) 380-1000

Representative Norman Sisisky
2371 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-6365
(Chris Plaushin - Legislative Assistant)

309 County Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704 (804) 393-2068

Representative Owen B. Pickett
2430 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-4215
(Noelle Pinkard - Legislative Assistant)

112 East Little Creek Road
Suite 216
Norfolk, VA 23505 (804) 583-5892

Senator John W. Warner
225 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-2023
(Anne Loomis - Legislative Assistant)

4900 World Trade Center
101 West Main Street
Norfolk, VA 23510 (804) 441-3079

Senator Charles S. Robb
154 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-4024
(Nicole Venable - Legislative Assistant)

Dominion Towers, Suite 107
999 Waterside Drive
Norfolk, VA 23510

(804) 441-3124

B. State Elected Officials

Governor George Allen
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, VA 23212

(804) 786-2211

Delegate William S. Moore, Jr.
Room 803 General Assembly Building
P.O. Box 406
Richmond, VA 23203

(804) 786-6889

P.O. Box 6190
Portsmouth, VA 23703

(804) 686-3600

Delegate Kenneth R. Melvin
Room 813 General Assembly Building
P.O. Box 406
Richmond, VA 23203

(804) 786-6888

601 Dinwiddie Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704

(804) 397-1009

Senator Frederick M. Quayle
Room 380 General Assembly Building
P.O. Box 406
Richmond, VA 23202

(804) 786-7293

3808 Poplar Hill Road
Chesapeake, VA 23321

(804) 483-9186

Senator L. Louise Lucas
Room 390 General Assembly Building
Richmond, VA 23203

(804) 786-6693

1120 Lakeview Drive
Portsmouth, VA 23701

(804) 487-5705

AR500142

C. Local Officials

Gloria O. Webb, Mayor

City of Portsmouth

P.O. Box 820

Portsmouth, VA 23705

(804) 393-8746

Johnny M. Clemons, Vice-Mayor

City of Portsmouth

P.O. Box 820

Portsmouth, VA 23705

(804) 393-8000

Ronald W. Massie, Manager

City of Portsmouth

P.O. Box 820

Portsmouth, VA 23705

(804) 393-8641

Robert P. Creecy

Director of Management and Legislative Affairs

City of Portsmouth

P.O. Box 820

Portsmouth, VA 23705

(804) 393-8614

Kenneth Wheeler

Director of Public Affairs

City of Portsmouth

P.O. Box 820

Portsmouth, VA 23705

(804) 393-8432

Marilee Hawkins

Director of Environmental Services

City of Portsmouth

801 Crawford Street

Portsmouth, VA 23704

(804) 393-8189

Venita Newby Owens, M.D.

Director of Public Health

City of Portsmouth

800 Crawford Parkway

Portsmouth, VA 23704

(804) 396-6819

Danny Cruce, Director
Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority
P.O. Box 1098
Portsmouth, VA 23705 (804) 399-5261

James C. Hawks
Councilman, City of Portsmouth
419 London Boulevard
Portsmouth, VA 23704 (804) 399-7541

Cameron Pitts
Councilman, City of Portsmouth
P.O. Box 820
Portsmouth, VA 23705 (804) 393-8000

Bernard Griffin
Councilman, City of Portsmouth
P.O. Box 820
Portsmouth, VA 23705 (804) 393-8000

James T. Martin
Councilman, City of Portsmouth
P.O. Box 820
Portsmouth, VA 23705 (804) 393-8000

P. Ward Robinett
Councilman, City of Portsmouth
P.O. Box 820
Portsmouth, VA 23705 (804) 393-8000

Dr. William E. Ward, Mayor
City of Chesapeake
1432 Waterside Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23320 (804) 547-6462

Robert T. Nance, Jr., Vice-Mayor
City of Chesapeake
500 New Zealand Reach
Chesapeake, VA 23322 (804) 547-6956

John E. Allen
Councilman, City of Chesapeake
1225 Plantation Lakes Circle
Chesapeake, VA 23320 (804) 547-6947

John W. Butt
Councilman, City of Chesapeake
2516 Centerville Turnpike South
Chesapeake, VA 23322 (804) 547-6952

John M. deTriquet, M.D.
Councilman, City of Chesapeake
3020 Princess Anne Crescent
Chesapeake, VA 23321 (804) 547-6951

Peter P. Duda
Councilman, City of Chesapeake
541 Head of River Road
Chesapeake, VA 23322 (804) 547-6950

Dwight Parker
Councilman, City of Chesapeake
3113 Sherwood Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23322 (804) 547-6949

Dr. Alan P. Krasnoff
Councilman, City of Chesapeake
700 Seabrooke Lane
Chesapeake, VA 23320 (804) 547-6948

W. Joe Newman
Councilman, City of Chesapeake
528 Forest Road
Chesapeake, VA 23322 (804) 547-6946

Dolores A. Moore, Clerk
City of Chesapeake
P.O. Box 15225
Chesapeake, VA 23328 (804) 547-6959

Clarence Cuffee, Interim Manager
City of Chesapeake
P.O. Box 15225
Chesapeake, VA 23328

(804) 547-6988

Sharon R. Hoggard
Public Information Coordinator
City of Chesapeake
306 Cedar Road
Chesapeake, VA 23320

(804) 547-6241

John T. King
Environmental Inspector
City of Chesapeake
P.O. Box 15225
Chesapeake, VA 23328

(804) 436-8103

Thomas F. Klecka
Fire Inspector
City of Chesapeake
304 Albemarle Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23320

(804) 547-6566

D. EPA Officials

Vance Evans (3EA30)
Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107

(215) 566-5526 or (800) 553-2509
e-mail: evans.vance@epamail.epa.gov

David Iacono (3HW23)
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107

(215) 566-3231

E. State Agencies

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
629 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

(804) 698-4000

Berry Wright
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
629 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

(804) 698-4012

F. Media

Newspapers/Publications

Virginia Pilot & Ledger Star
Scott Harper, Environmental Reporter
150 West Brambleton Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23510

(804) 446-2000
(804) 446-2414 FAX

Virginia Pilot & Ledger Star
307 County Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704

(804) 446-2612
(804) 446-22607 FAX

Portsmouth Times
Victoria Hecht, Editor
P.O. Box 1327
Chesapeake, VA 23327

(804) 397-7606
(804) 548-0390 FAX

Port Cities Concerns
Bess Kropf, Editor
P.O. Box 7272
Portsmouth, VA 23707

(804) 397-8019
(804) 397-8019 FAX

Radio Stations

WFOG

Carol Horton, News Director
215 Brooke Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23510

(804) 622-6771
(804) 624-9501 FAX

WNIS

Ken Johnson, News Director
500 Dominion Tower
999 Waterside Drive
Norfolk, VA 23502

(804) 640-8500
(804) 640-8552 FAX

Television Stations

WAVY-TV

Bob Cashen, News Director
300 Wavy Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704

(804) 393-1010
(804) 399-7628 FAX

WGNT-TV

Howard Gernigan, General Manager
1318 Spratley Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704

(804) 399-2501
(804) 399-3303 FAX

WVEC-TV

Dave Cassidy, News Director
613 Woodis Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23510

(804) 628-6200
(804) 628-5855 FAX

WTKR-TV

John Woodin, News Manager
720 Boush Street
Norfolk, VA 23510

(804) 446-1000
(804) 446-1376 FAX

Cox Cable Systems

225 Clearfield Avenue
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

(804) 497-1071
(804) 671-1501 FAX

Cox Cable Systems
Ervin Hill, Program Director
4585 Village Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23502

(804) 858-5216
(804) 857-6716 FAX

G. Other Interested Parties

Sierra Club
833 Washington Road
Chesapeake, VA 23320

(804) 340-0322

Lonny Staylor
Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 70
524 Middle Street
Portsmouth, VA 23705

(804) 397-3453

Jan Burton
Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 70
524 Middle Street
Portsmouth, VA 23705

(804) 397-3453

James Victory, Principal
Hurst Elementary School
18 Dahlgren Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23704

(804) 558-2811

Patricia Fisher, Principal
Cradock Middle School
21 Alden Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23704

(804) 393-8788

Pomar Tootoo, Principal
Brighton Elementary School
1101 Jefferson Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704

(804) 393-8870

Abundant Life Church
1 Afton Parkway
Portsmouth, VA 23704

(804) 399-6214

Cradock Baptist Church
96 Afton Parkway
Portsmouth, VA 23704 (804) 485-3500

Cradock Presbyterian Church
39 Afton Parkway
Portsmouth, VA 23704 (804) 397-3735

Cradock United Methodist Church
24 Channing Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23704 (804) 485-4420

Emanuel Episcopal Church
17 Bainbridge Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23704 (804) 397-5170

Holy Angels Catholic Church
34 Afton Parkway
Portsmouth, VA 23704 (804) 485-2142

James Herndon
Chamber of Commerce
5101 Newport Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23508 (804) 676-0626

Dr. J. Frank Sellow
Deputy Superintendent
Norfolk Public Schools
P.O. Box 1357
Norfolk, VA 23501 (804) 441-2819

Susan Cofer
Elizabeth River Project
1588 Lake Christopher Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23451 (804) 495-3431

Marjorie Mayfield
Elizabeth River Project
109 East Main Street, Suite 305
Norfolk, VA 23510 (804) 625-3648

David Owens
Kaufman & Canoles
P.O. Box 3037
Norfolk, VA 23514

(804) 624-3279

Kim Coble
Virginia Senior Scientist
Chesapeake Bay Foundation
1001 East Main Street, Suite 815
Richmond, VA 23219

(804) 780-1392

David Sump
Crenshaw, Ware & Martin
1200 Nations Bank Center
Norfolk, VA 23510

(804) 623-3000

John Blandin
Geologist
Norfolk Catholic High School
7409 Rebel Road
Norfolk, VA 23505

(804) 423-8559

Captain Carl Fisher
Deputy Director
NOAA Atlantic Marine Center
439 West York Street
Norfolk, VA 23510

(804) 441-6709

Keith Cannady
Environmental Engineer
City of Norfolk
403 City Hall Building
Norfolk, VA 23501

(804) 664-4364

APPENDIX B
Public Meeting Location and Stenographic Information

AR500152

Public Meeting Locations

Cradock Recreation and Community Center
45 Afton Parkway
Portsmouth, VA 23704

Contacts:

Ms. Gerry McNeal, Department of Parks and Recreation
(804) 393-8481

Ms. Geneva (Didi) Strauss, Building Administrator
(804) 393-8785

Resources:

Tables, chairs, air conditioning, podium, and restrooms are available. The building is accessible to the handicapped.

Cradock Middle School
21 Alden Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23704

Contact:

Ms. Patricia Fisher, Principal
(804) 393-8788

Resources:

Tables, chairs, air conditioning, and restrooms are available. The building is accessible to the handicapped.

NSU/ODU Tri-Cities Center
(Formerly Cradock High School)
4300 George Washington Highway
Portsmouth, VA 23702-2099

Contacts:

Mr. Curtis Langley, Director
Mr. James Antonick, Assistant Director
(804) 396-6801

Resources:

Tables, chairs, air conditioning (except auditorium), and restrooms are available. The building is accessible to the handicapped.

Stenographic Information

Tayloe & Associates
6330 Newtown Road
Suite 617
Norfolk, VA 23502

Contact:
Frank Tayloe
(804) 461-1984

Associated Court Reporters
125 St. Paul Boulevard
Norfolk, VA 23502

Contact:
Kristin
(804) 622-3603

Leslie Jolly Reporting
P.O. Box 654
Portsmouth, VA 23705

Contact:
Leslie Jolly
(804) 393-6260

APPENDIX C
Information Repositories

AR500155

Information Repositories

Portsmouth Municipal Library
601 Court Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704

Contact:

Susan Burton
(804) 393-8501

Hours:

Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Kirn Memorial Library
City Hall Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23501

Contact:

Rose Parker
(804) 664-7323

Hours:

Monday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Chesapeake Public Library
298 Cedar Road
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Contact:

Kendall Reid
(804) 547-6592

Hours:

Monday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

APPENDIX D
Glossary of Technical Terms

AR500157

Glossary of Technical Terms

Administrative Record: The official file containing the Remedial Investigation report, Feasibility Study report, Risk Assessment, and other site-related documents which provide the basis for EPA's selection of a remedial (long-term cleanup) alternative at a Superfund site.

Cleanup: An action taken to deal with a release or threatened release of hazardous substances that could adversely affect public health and/or the environment. The word "cleanup" is used to refer to both short-term (removal) actions and long-term (remedial response) actions at Superfund sites.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA): A federal law (commonly known as "Superfund") passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). The law gave EPA the authority to investigate sites where there is a suspected threat to public health or the environment caused by the release or potential release of hazardous substances. The law also created a special tax on the chemical and petroleum industries. Monies collected under the tax are deposited into a trust fund to be used to clean up abandoned or uncontrolled waste sites. Under the law, EPA can: pay for site cleanup when the parties responsible for site contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to perform the cleanup, or take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or pay back the federal government for the cost of the cleanup.

Creo-penta: A mixture of creosote and pentachlorophenol, the two elements commonly used during wood treating operations.

Creosote: A dark oily liquid having a penetrating tarry odor, obtained by the distillation of wood tar and commonly used as a wood-treating preservative.

Feasibility Study (FS): A study which identifies and evaluates site cleanup alternatives, and analyzes the technologies and their benefits, limitations, and costs.

Groundwater: Fresh water that fills in gaps between soil, sand, and gravel that is underground. Groundwater can be a major source of drinking water.

Information Repository: A collection of documents about a specific Superfund site and the general Superfund process. EPA usually sets up the information repository in a public building that is conveniently located, accessible to the handicapped, and contains a photocopying machine.

National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP): The federal regulation that guides the Superfund program. The NCP was revised in 1990.

National Priorities List (NPL): EPA's list of the nation's most serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites identified for possible long-term cleanup using Superfund money. EPA updates the NPL at least once a year.

Pentachlorophenol (PCP): An organic compound commonly used as a wood preservative.

Proposed Remedial Action Plan (Proposed Plan): A Superfund site document which reviews the cleanup alternatives presented in the site Feasibility Study and identifies EPA's Preferred Alternative. Selection of a Preferred Alternative is not a closed-end commitment to use that alternative; rather it is a way for EPA to indicate, based upon its experience and expertise, which alternative is likely the best course of action. EPA must actively solicit public review of and comment on all the alternatives under consideration.

Public Comment Period: A period during which the public can formally review and comment on various documents and EPA actions. For example, EPA holds a public comment period when it proposes to add sites to the National Priorities List. EPA also holds a minimum 30-day public comment period to enable community members to review and comment on a Proposed Plan.

Record of Decision (ROD): A legal document that announces and explains the cleanup method(s) EPA will use at a National Priorities List site. The ROD is based on information and technical analysis generated during the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study and on EPA's consideration of comments received during the public comment period.

Remedial Action: The actual construction or implementation phase that follows the Remedial Design of the selected clean-up alternative at a National Priorities List site.

Remedial Design: The engineering phase that follows the Record of Decision. During Remedial Design, technical drawings and specifications are developed for the remedial action at a site. It is similar to a blueprint or workplan.

AR500159

Remedial Investigation (RI): A study which identifies the nature and extent of site contamination and determines the threat this contamination poses to human health and the environment.

Removal Action: An immediate, short-term cleanup action to address a release or threatened release of hazardous substances. This action is initiated to reduce or eliminate an immediate threat to public health and/or the environment.

Responsiveness Summary: A summary of oral and written comments (and EPA responses to those comments) which EPA receives during the public comment period. The Responsiveness Summary is part of the Record of Decision.

Superfund: The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA and SARA to update and improve environmental laws. The program has the authority to respond directly to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances that may endanger public health, welfare, or the environment. The "Superfund" is a trust fund that can be used to finance cleanup actions at hazardous waste sites.

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA): Modifications to CERCLA enacted on October 17, 1986.

Surface Water: Ponds, lakes, rivers, and other bodies of water naturally open to the atmosphere.

Technical Assistance Grant (TAG): An EPA grant of up to \$50,000 which can be awarded to a bona fide citizens group in a Superfund site area. The grant enables that group to hire a technical expert to review and interpret site reports issued by EPA or other parties.

APPENDIX E
Technical Assistance Grant Information

AR500161

Technical Assistance Grant Information

EPA provides Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs) of up to \$50,000 as part of its Superfund community relations program. The Technical Assistance Grant program enables citizens in a site area to hire a technical expert to review and interpret site reports generated by EPA or other parties. Complete information on Technical Assistance Grants is contained in an EPA document titled *The Citizens' Guidance Manual for the Technical Assistance Grant Program*. This document is available at the local information repository designated in Appendix C of this Community Relations Plan. For additional information on how to apply for a Technical Assistance Grant, contact:

Vance Evans (3EA30)
Community Involvement Coordinator
U. S. EPA Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(800) 553-2509 or (215) 566-5526

EPA accepts applications for Technical Assistance Grants as mandated by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. Only one group per site can receive a Technical Assistance Grant, so EPA urges local groups to join together to apply.

The following are Federal publications on the Technical Assistance Grant program which can be obtained by calling EPA's publications number: (800) 553-6847.

- Resource Distribution for the Technical Assistance Grant Program
Order No. PB90-249459/CCE
- Superfund Technical Assistance Grant Brochure
Order No. PB90-273772/CCE
- Superfund Technical Assistance Grant Handbook
Order No. PB91-238592/CCE
- Update: Superfund Technical Assistance Grants
Order No. PB90-273715/CCE

APPENDIX F
Sample Fact Sheet

AR500163

Atlantic Wood Industries Superfund Site Update

Portsmouth, Virginia



December 1995

FACT SHEET

EPA SELECTS CLEANUP PLAN

On September 29, 1995, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Atlantic Wood Industries Superfund Site located in Portsmouth, Virginia. Atlantic Wood Industries operated a wood treating facility at the site from 1926 to 1992. The ROD announces EPA's cleanup plan for soils, sediments, and heavy liquids contaminated with creosote and other contaminants. Creosote is a chemical used in the wood treating industry. Cleanup plans for groundwater will be handled by a separate ROD.

EPA held a meeting on June 27, 1995 to discuss the results of previous investigations and studies at the site. This information is summarized in EPA's Proposed Remedial Action Plan, dated June 9, 1995. The Proposed Plan also outlined several cleanup options for each area of soil, sediment, and heavy liquid contamination. This plan also explains which cleanup option EPA would recommend, and why.

At the meeting on June 27, 1995, EPA addressed the community's questions and concerns about the site and the cleanup. In addition, a public comment period was held from June 9 to August 7, 1995. During this time frame, community members could comment and provide input on EPA's cleanup recommendations. EPA reviewed and responded to all of the comments and questions during the comment period before selecting a final cleanup action. These responses are included as part of the ROD and can be found at any of the three information repositories listed in the box to the right.

CLEANUP ACTIONS

After carefully reviewing all of the cleanup options and comments, EPA selected the following courses of action.

On-site Soils and Sediments: Excavating an estimated 20,000 cubic yards of soils and 564 cubic yards of sediments; biologically treating the soil and sediments in an on-site treatment plot to break down the contaminants; and returning the treated soils and sediments back to the area from which they were removed. If

the required cleanup levels are not reached, a back-up system involving low-temperature thermal treatment will be used.

The contaminated soils are located in the areas of the property known as the former Wood Treatment East Area, Wood Treatment West Area, Historic Disposal Area, and Wood Storage Area. Contaminated sediments are located in the Inlet Area, Storm Water Runoff Ditch, and Western Runoff Ditch.

Heavy Liquids (Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids): Installing new recovery wells and using existing wells to pump and retrieve the heavy liquids for reuse or disposal at off-site locations.

Southeast Ditch Sediments and Waste Lime Area Soils: Excavating an estimated 2,370 cubic yards of soil and 250 cubic yards of sediment; disposing of the excavated materials in an approved off-site landfill; and backfilling the excavated areas with clean soil.

During cleanup work, a groundwater and surface water monitoring program will be implemented to ensure that the cleanup efforts are effective. In addition, restrictions will be placed on the use of groundwater at the site, as well as restrictions on future site usage.

over for page 2

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Community members are encouraged to review and photocopy site-related material at any of the local information repositories. Each repository contains all of the site-related documents EPA used to select the cleanup methods for the site.

Portsmouth Municipal Library
601 Court Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704
(804) 393-8501

Kirn Memorial Library
301 E. City Hall Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23501
(804) 664-7323

Chesapeake Library
298 Cedar Road
Chesapeake, VA 23320
(804) 547-6592

AR500164

NEXT STEPS

EPA soon will begin the next step in the cleanup process, which includes negotiating with the responsible parties to begin cleanup planning and implementation. Upon finalizing the cleanup design, and prior to beginning actual work, EPA will hold a **public meeting** in the local community. At this meeting, EPA will provide local residents with information on the upcoming work and its potential impact on the community. Prior to the meeting, a notice announcing the date, time, and location will be published in the *Virginia Pilot & Ledger Star*.

Other areas potentially affected by the site, including the ground water and the Elizabeth River, will be investigated separately. Once these studies are complete, EPA will again release a Proposed Plan and solicit community input.

EPA CONTACT

EPA is available to answer questions or provide information on the Atlantic Wood Industries Site to local community members. Lisa Brown, EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator, keeps residents, local officials, and the media updated on the progress of clean-up actions at the site. She can be reached at the address and phone numbers listed below.

Lisa Brown
Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. EPA Region III - 3EA30
841 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(800) 553-2509 or (215) 597-2129
e-mail: brown.lisa@epamail.epa.gov

MAILING LIST ADDITIONS - QUESTION/COMMENT

If you did not receive this fact sheet by mail and would like to be included on the site mailing list to receive future fact sheets about the Atlantic Wood Site, please complete this form and mail it to Lisa Brown at the address listed above.

PLEASE PRINT:

Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

If you have a question or comment about the Atlantic Wood Site, please write it below.

United States
Environmental Protection Agency
Region III (3EA30 - L. Brown)
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107

♻️ printed on recycled paper

AR500165

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